

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

## 1. An image forming apparatus comprising:

a discrimination unit for discriminating types of objects contained in input data; and

5 a processing unit for applying reduction processing, which suppresses amount of colorant, to a thin line in a graphics if result of discrimination by said discrimination unit is that an object is a graphic;

10 wherein whether reduction processing is to be executed or not can be selected by a user.

## 2. An image forming apparatus comprising:

a discrimination unit for discriminating types of objects contained in input data; and

15 a processing unit for applying reduction processing, which suppresses amount of colorant that is necessary to form an object into an image to an amount conforming to the type of object, in accordance with result of discrimination by said discrimination  
20 unit;

wherein amount of the colorant can be specified by a user object by object.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said processing unit doesn't execute application of the  
25 reduction processing to an object of a certain type.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said discrimination unit discriminates the type of object

based upon an instruction contained in image data described in page description language.

5. An image forming method comprising:

a discrimination step of discriminating types of  
5 objects contained in input data; and

a processing step of applying reduction  
processing, which suppresses amount of colorant, to a  
thin line in graphics if result of discrimination at  
said discrimination step is that an object is a  
10 graphic;

wherein whether reduction processing is to be  
executed or not can be selected by a user.

6. An image forming method comprising:

a discrimination step of discriminating types of  
15 objects contained in input data; and

a processing step of applying reduction  
processing, which suppresses amount of colorant that  
is necessary to form an object into an image to an  
amount conforming to the type of object, in accordance  
20 with result of discrimination at said discrimination  
step;

wherein amount of the colorant can be specified  
by a user object by object.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein said  
25 processing step doesn't execute application of the  
reduction processing to an object of a certain type.

8. The method according to claim 5, wherein said

discrimination step discriminates the type of object based upon an instruction contained in image data described in page description language.

9. A computer program product on which a program has  
5 been recorded, said program comprising:

code of a discrimination step of discriminating types of objects contained in input data; and

- code of a processing step of applying reduction processing, which suppresses amount of colorant, to a  
10 thin line in graphics if result of discrimination at said discrimination step is that an object is a graphic;

wherein whether reduction processing is to be executed or not can be selected by a user.

- 15 10. A computer program product on which a program has been recorded, said program comprising:

code of a discrimination step of discriminating types of objects contained in input data; and

- code of a processing step of applying reduction  
20 processing, which suppresses amount of colorant that is necessary to form an object into an image to an amount conforming to the type of object, in accordance with result of discrimination at said discrimination step;

- 25 wherein amount of the colorant can be specified by a user object by object.

11. The program product according to claim 10,

wherein said processing step doesn't execute application of the reduction processing to an object of a certain type.

12. The program product according to claim 9, wherein  
5 said discrimination step discriminates the type of object based upon an instruction contained in image data described in page description language.